



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

MEETING PACKET

McCloskey Conference Room — City Hall
Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

Or virtually at:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/84327085962?pwd=naI8LVmKZSoinPUHbXuw3h7oqMyi5g.1>

Meeting ID: 843 2708 5962

Passcode: 034238

CONTENTS

- 1. Agenda**
- 2. Minutes from September 10, 2024**
- 3. Chair Report**
- 4. Proposed BCOS Title 2 Code Change**
- 5. Working Group Grant Proposal: CanopyBloomington**
- 6. Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant Proposal: New Pollinator Gardens**



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

NOTICE AND AGENDA

Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
McCloskey Conference Room — City Hall

or virtually at

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/84327085962?pwd=naI8LVmKZSoinPUHbXuw3h7oqMyi5g.1>

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Approval of Agenda**
4. **Approval of Minutes: September 10, 2024**
5. **Public Comment** **10 min**
up to 3 minutes per person
6. **Reports from Commissioners** **20 min**
 - A. Chair (Justin Vasel) 5 min
 - B. Waste Management Working Group (Matt Austin) 5 min
 - C. Ad-Hoc Committee: Sustainability Assessment Report (Tara Dunderdale) 5 min
 - D. Council Ex-Officio (Dave Rollo) 5 min
7. **Discussion of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions** **40 min**
 - A. WG Grant Proposal: CanopyBloomington (Andrew Guenther) 10 min
 - B. Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant Proposal: New Pollinator Gardens 10 min
 - C. Proposed changes to BMC 2.12.100 20 min
8. **Resolutions for Second Reading and Discussion** **N/A**
9. **Resolutions for First Reading and Discussion** **N/A**
10. **Report from Staff Liaison (Shawn Miya)** **10 min**
11. **Member Announcements** **5 min**
12. **New Business** **5 min**
13. **Adjournment**

Next Regular Meeting: December 10, 2024 at 6 pm

As a quorum of the Commission or its committees may be present, this gathering constitutes a meeting under the Indiana Open Door Law (I.C. § 5-14-1.5). For that reason, this statement provides notice that this meeting will occur and is open for the public to attend, observe, and record what transpires.



BLOOMINGTON COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY MINUTES — REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, September 10th, 2024

McCloskey Conference Room and via Zoom

BCOS Members Attending: Justin Vasel, Matt Austin, Jon Eldon, Dave Rollo, Jami Scholl, Secretary-Zero Rose (Zoom), David Maenner, Andrew Guenther, Jami Scholl, Tara Dunderdale, Evan Nix (Zoom), Hunter Hawley

BCOS Members Absent: Quentin Gilley

Staff Attending: Shawn Miya (Liaison) and Jane Kupersmith (Director of Economic and Sustainable Development/ESD)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Justin Vasel at 6:03pm.

Roll Call and Quorum Confirmation: A quorum is present.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Matt Austin to approve Agenda. SECONDED by Hunter Hawley.

APPROVED by general consent.

Approval of Minutes for the meeting on August 13th, 2024: APPROVED by general consent.

Public Comment: None

Report from the Chair (Justin Vasel)

Officer Elections coming up in March 2025 and will hold sessions in December or January relating to Election of BCOS Officers.

New Commissioner; Quentin Gilley not present, but welcomed aboard as the IU Office

of Sustainability Commissioner. Two vacant positions on the Commission are Mayoral Appointments.

Work session on Sept 3, 2024: Informal format at Public Library was attended by 8 Commissioners. Discussed Waste Management WG, the WG grants process, the mandate of BCOS in municipal code to seek outside funding, and alternative ways of defining and pursuing sustainability. Tara Dunderdale to spearhead Sustainability Assessment in relation to the UN's 17 SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals).

Establishment of a new Google Drive for BCOS as a document repository and providing the City with read access so they can take periodic screenshots to archive for APRA compliance and document retention. (Jane Kupersmith responded to a question of whether ESD could pay for the digital service by suggesting that they could "get to a Yes" on funding that function).

Social Media Procedures: Brainstorming needed to create quality control guidelines for topics and types of online posts, scheduling for handing off to Liaison to post to networking platforms.

Engagement and Outreach with other local bodies; Justin attended CHLA (Commission on Hispanic and Latino Affairs) and will interface with a member on sustainability initiatives they have going on.

City 2025 Budget: Process is underway; Commissioners should be aware.

Working Group Grants: Three potential proposals are being drafted. We're hoping to do what we can with the remaining time that we have this year. Simple projects will stand the greatest chance of working through the approval process.

Report from Council Ex-Officio (Dave Rollo)

Council/ESD rewording BCOS Mission as Purpose and other changes to foundational statute to present to BCOS to consider. The 2025 budget process includes ongoing negotiations, mainly toward cost of living adjustments, raises for City employees. (Jane Kupersmith responded to a question to Dave about BCOS Working Groups grants

funding; they are funded by a line item in the Mayor's budget from the general fund to ESD under Sustainability Grants and are slated to continue next year).

Report from Commissioners

Waste Management Working Group (Matt Austin)

Bokashi Composting pilot project - inception from an expressed community need brought to municipal entities and University programs (Lotus Fest, Purdue Extension, Waste Reduction District) taken on by Garden Quest. Compost Captains program as a template to train volunteers in the process of collecting, steeping, draining Bokashi buckets using inoculated wheat bran to pickle all manner of food waste, to ultimately enrich soil at the Community Orchard and Community Gardens. Asking \$5,000 from the BCOS WG Grant Pool, matched by \$5,000 from the Waste Reduction District (approved at their Executive Committee Meeting and to be presented to the Board of Directors in October). An educational component to introduce the methods to the community, reduction of landfill/emissions and ultimately building nutrient rich soil for local food production.

Shawn Miya asked about the community benefit of Bokashi composting pilot given its potential value as a sellable product, and whether IDEM restricts the practice and whether a Waste Hauling permit would be required for an ongoing program. She requested adding letters of commitment from MCWRD or other partners to WG grant application

Discussions Not Resolutions

Role of Treasurer and commercial fundraising for Working Group projects, educational community initiatives; Could BCOS sell things like compost or lemonade? And how would donations or funds raised independently of ESD be administered? There were conflicting opinions by commissioners on this.

Working Group Grant Proposals

Canopy Bloomington (Andrew Guenther) - planting and maintaining trees for private property, businesses or nonprofits (not City property); \$2500+ grant request. Shawn Miya Mentioned she had a similar tree planting project going and expressed her enthusiasm. Dave Rollo mentioned that Canopy Bloomington had some "heavy

hitters" among their affiliated supporters and questioned whether other sources of funding could be sought and emphasized that the small amount of funds that BCOS has on hand should be applied to things that aren't being done or aren't yet funded.

Earthen Bench Garten Array (Evan Nix and Zero Rose) - Creative Placemaking Microcosm of Green Building Techniques, Urban Ag and Biospheric Community Node; \$1,000.94 grant request. No time given for discussion.

Report from Staff Liaison (Shawn Miya)

Introduced ESD's new Sustainable Development Coordinator, Jolie Perry.

Did not have time for a report due to the 90-minute meeting timeframe. Below are Shawn's sentiments during Waste Management Working Group proposal:

MOTION to extend meeting five minutes (Matt Austin)

SECONDED (Jon Eldon)

2024 Sustainability Assessment Report (Tara Dunderdale)

Proposal to form an Ad Hoc Committee focused on a few categories to prepare a Policy and Budget Assessment by year's end to determine progress made and areas for improvement.

MOTION to form Sustainability Assessment Report Ad Hoc Committee (Justin Vasel)

SECONDED (Andrew Guenther)

Commissioners who volunteered for the Ad Hoc Committee: Andrew Guenther, Evan Nix, Justin Vasel and Tara Dunderdale.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 8th, 2024 at 6pm



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Chair Report

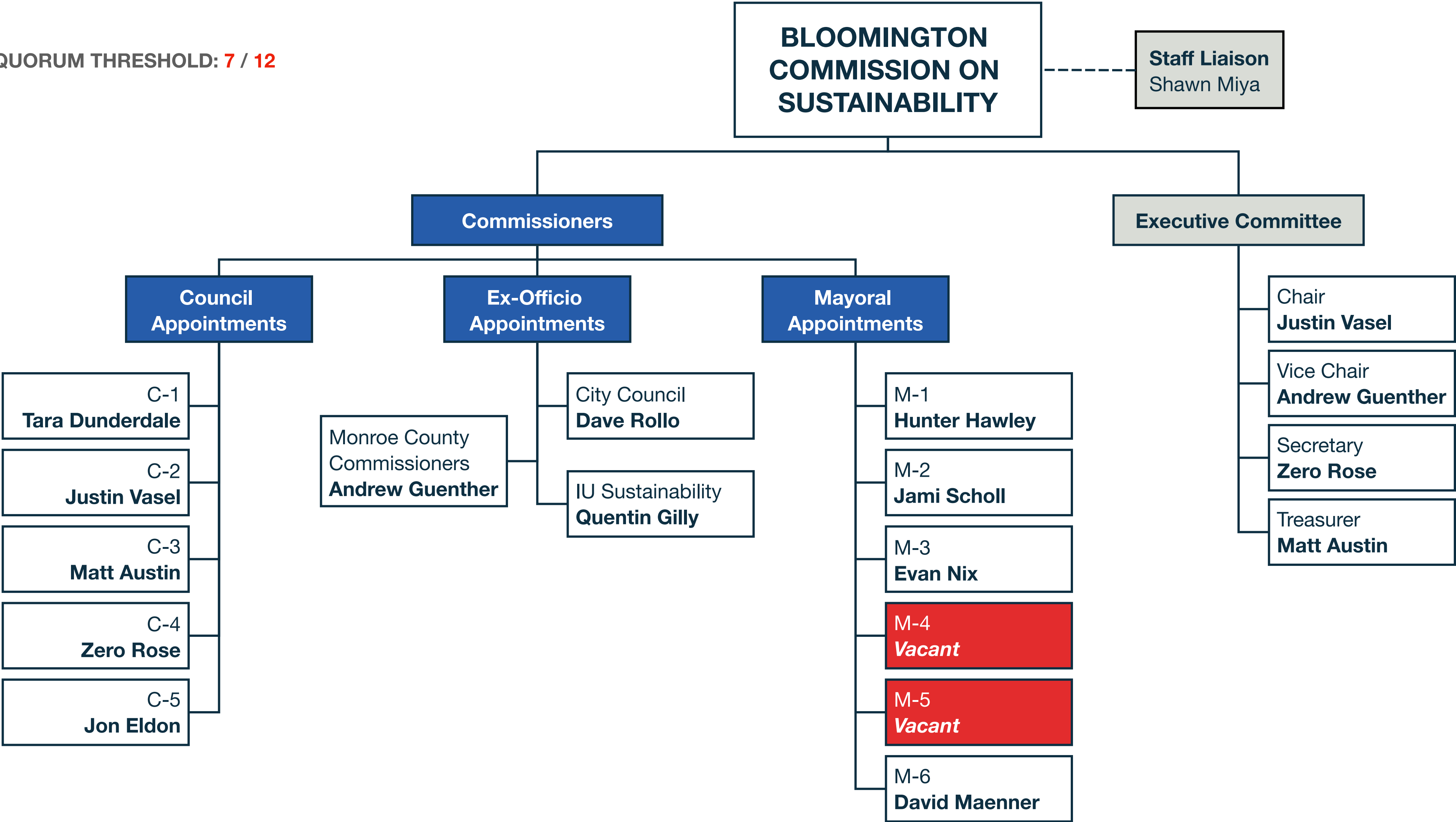
November 12, 2024

Justin Vasel

BCOS Organization Chart

CURRENT AS OF NOVEMBER 12, 2024

CURRENT QUORUM THRESHOLD: 7 / 12



Tentative BCOS Calendar

	Date	Event
<i>Today</i>	November 12, 2024	Regular BCOS Meeting
	November 19 or 26, 2024	BCOS Work Session
	December 10, 2024	Regular BCOS Meeting
	W I N T E R B R E A K	
	January 14, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting
	January 28, 2025	BCOS Work Session
	February 11, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting
	February 25, 2025	BCOS Work Session

Date	Event
March 11, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting OFFICER ELECTIONS
March 25, 2025	BCOS Work Session
April 8, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting
April 22, 2025	BCOS Work Session
May 13, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting
May 27, 2025	BCOS Work Session
June 10, 2025	Regular BCOS Meeting

General Updates

- BCOS Document Repository
- Grants
 - Working Group Grants
 - Today: CanopyBloomington Proposal
 - Neighborhood Sustainability Grants
 - Today: New Pollinator Gardens proposal
 - We've been informed these grants no longer tied to BCOS as of Jan 2025
 - Voting Procedures
 - Grant awards are routine votes, not resolutions—Only one vote is needed per BCOS Bylaws
- Annual Report
- Municipal Code Title 2 Changes (next slides)

Proposed Code Changes

BMC 2.12.100(1)

Public Policy and Purpose. **A sustainable community seeks to enhance the socio-environmental-economic well-being of the community while taking precautions not to compromise the quality of life of future generations. Toward that end, it reduces its use of nonrenewable natural resources and its production of wastes, while at the same time improving livability.** The mission of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability is to promote sustainable **socio-environmental-economic well-being of Bloomington and all its inhabitants.**

BMC 2.12.100(1)

Public Policy and Purpose. The **purpose** of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability is to promote **and advance sustainable policies and practices in Bloomington across environmental, social, and economic dimensions. Broadly, sustainability can be seen as a community or society meeting its needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a more detailed and comprehensive framework for organizing and prioritizing sustainability goals and actions. The SDGs shall guide the commission's work, along with sustainability components of relevant city plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Sustainability Action Plan.**

BMC 2.12.100(8)

Powers and Duties. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (A) To coordinate ongoing and to propose and promote new sustainability initiatives among residents, businesses, **governmental, nongovernmental agencies** and educational **organizations through education** and **outreach** programs;
- (B) To advise and make recommendations to the Bloomington common council, **city administration**, and city boards and commissions on policies and programs that infuse the work of city government with an operating philosophy based on sustainability;
- (C) To **determine**, in cooperation with other city boards and commissions, Bloomington's current and future sustainability **status by developing and monitoring a set** of sustainability indicators;
- (D) To **provide, in cooperation with other city boards and commissions**, an annual **"sustainability assessment" based on said indicators. The assessment shall be included in an annual** report **and provided** to the **common council**, mayor and the **public**;
- (E) To advise, consult and cooperate with other agencies, boards and commissions of the city of Bloomington, the state, other local governments, industries, other states, interstate or interlocal agencies, and the federal government, and with interested persons or groups on matters of sustainability;
- (F) To adopt administrative rules and regulations for the conduct of its business; **and**,
- (G) To research and apply for grants or other funds or gifts from public or private agencies for the purpose of carrying out any of the provisions or purposes of this section.

BMC 2.12.100(8)

Powers and Duties. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (A) To coordinate ongoing and to propose and promote new sustainability initiatives among residents, businesses, **government, non-governmental organizations** and educational **institutions, including outreach, research, and educational** programs;
- (B) To advise and make recommendations to the Bloomington common council, **mayor**, and city boards and commissions on policies and programs that infuse the work of city government with an operating philosophy based on sustainability;
- (C) To **oversee and provide recommendations**, in cooperation with **city staff and** other city boards and commissions, **for assessing** Bloomington's current and future **community-wide sustainability status, including through the use** of sustainability indicators;
- (D) To **submit** an annual report to the mayor and the **common council summarizing its activities and programs**;
- (E) To advise, consult and cooperate with other agencies, boards and commissions of the city of Bloomington, the state, other local governments, industries, other states, interstate or interlocal agencies, and the federal government, and with interested persons or groups on matters of sustainability;
- (F) To adopt administrative rules and regulations for the conduct of its business; **and**
- (G) To research and apply for grants or other funds or gifts from public or private agencies for the purpose of carrying out any of the provisions or purposes of this section.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON COMMON COUNCIL

AGENDA
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL PROCESSES
TUESDAY | 8:00 AM
12 NOVEMBER 2024

Allison Conference Room (#225), Showers Building, 401 N. Morton Street
The public may also access the meeting at the following link:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/83874787485?pwd=K2PVMsK2aJ4ib175Cy3a9aI9oy7Dsq.1>

Chair: Isabel Piedmont-Smith

1. Agenda review and approval
2. Title 2 revisions regarding boards and commissions
 - a) Brief review of revisions as presented in meeting packet
 - b) Public comment
 - c) Vote on forwarding slate of revisions to full Council
3. Changes to Council regular session processes
 - a) Suggestions from CM Asare
 - b) Items to consider from the committee chair
 - Order of Business at regular sessions
 - More appropriate placement for reports from non-profits
 - More appropriate placement for letters of support from Council
 - When to allow the administration to speak on an item of legislation or an amendment that was not brought forward by the administration
 - Rules for public comment
 - Need to identify oneself in-person, online via Zoom, online via Zoom chat
 - Option for anonymous online feedback
 - Who is allowed to put what in a Council packet or packet addendum
 - c) Discussion
 - d) Public comment
 - e) Proposal(s) to bring to the full Council or other next steps
4. Code of Conduct updates (CM Rollo)
5. Preview of December meeting
 - a) Discussion of applying an equity lens to Council processes (CM Flaherty)
 - b) Year-end report to Council (CM Piedmont-Smith)
6. Public comment (items not on the agenda)
7. Adjournment promptly at 9:30 am

(i) To refer persons to the appropriate governmental unit or private organizations which can adequately deal with their problem.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY COMMISSION

Emailed staff liaison Michelle Moss on 11/6/24 to get feedback from commission (they meet on Nov. 20)

BMC 2.12.090(3)

Powers and Duties. To promote and celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday and ~~the acceptance of diversity~~ legacy in our community. In the pursuit of these purposes the commission may appoint additional volunteers and commission associates. The commission shall report to the mayor and to the common council in writing annually.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

To be reviewed by BCOS at its November meeting

BMC 2.12.100(1)

Public Policy and Purpose. ~~A sustainable community seeks to enhance the socio-environmental-economic well-being of the community while taking precautions not to compromise the quality of life of future generations. Toward that end, it reduces its use of nonrenewable natural resources and its production of wastes, while at the same time improving livability. The mission of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability is to promote sustainable socio-environmental-economic well-being of Bloomington and all its inhabitants.~~

The purpose of the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability is to promote and advance sustainable policies and practices in Bloomington across environmental, social, and economic dimensions. Broadly, sustainability can be seen as a community or society meeting its needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a more detailed and comprehensive framework for organizing and prioritizing sustainability goals and actions. The SDGs shall guide the commission's work, along with sustainability components of relevant city plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, Climate Action Plan, and Sustainability Action Plan.

BMC 2.12.100(8)

Powers and Duties. The commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (A) To coordinate ongoing and to propose and promote new sustainability initiatives among residents, businesses, governmental, non-governmental organizations agencies and educational institutions organizations, including through education and outreach, research, education programs;
- (B) To advise and make recommendations to the Bloomington common council, mayor city administration, and city boards and commissions on policies and programs that infuse the work of city government with an operating philosophy based on sustainability;
- (C) To oversee and provide recommendations determine, in cooperation with city staff and other city boards and commissions, for assessing Bloomington's current and future sustainability status, including through the use by developing and monitoring a set of sustainability indicators;
- (E) To advise, consult and cooperate with other agencies, boards and commissions of the city of Bloomington, the state, other local governments, industries, other states, interstate or interlocal agencies, and the federal government, and with interested persons or groups on matters of sustainability;
- (D) To submit provide, in cooperation with other city boards and commissions, an annual "sustainability assessment" based on said indicators. The assessment shall be included in an annual report and provided to the mayor and the common council summarizing its activities and programs, mayor and the public;
- (E) To advise, consult and cooperate with other agencies, boards and commissions of the city of Bloomington, the state, other local governments, industries, other states, interstate or interlocal agencies, and the federal government, and with interested persons or groups on matters of sustainability;
- (F) To adopt administrative rules and regulations for the conduct of its business; and,
- (G) To research and apply for grants or other funds or gifts from public or private agencies for the purpose of carrying out any of the provisions or purposes of this section.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (Environmental Quality and Conservation Commission)

Approved by the EC and city legal in October, per Rachael Johnson, staff liaison

BMC 2.12.050

- (1) Purpose. It is declared to be the public policy of the City of Bloomington and the purpose of this section to promote the stewardship and preservation of the City's environment and natural resources by seeking out and responding to emerging issues, addressing them with sound long-term policy recommendations, and

CanopyBloomington is a social impact organization whose mission is to grow and sustainably manage Bloomington's urban forest, with a focus on tree equity and community engagement. Since Canopy was founded in 2021, we have planted 241 trees around the City of Bloomington. These trees are located in a variety of types of locations: churches, schools, neighborhoods, and businesses. This past year, Canopy has conducted tree health check-ups at all of our planting locations and made two discoveries: our survivability rate is 94% and 16 trees have died. These deaths are a result of two things: the resident or organization not providing maintenance to the trees and an incorrect match of tree species to the planting location. Figure 1 shows a count of the trees that have died and their locations.

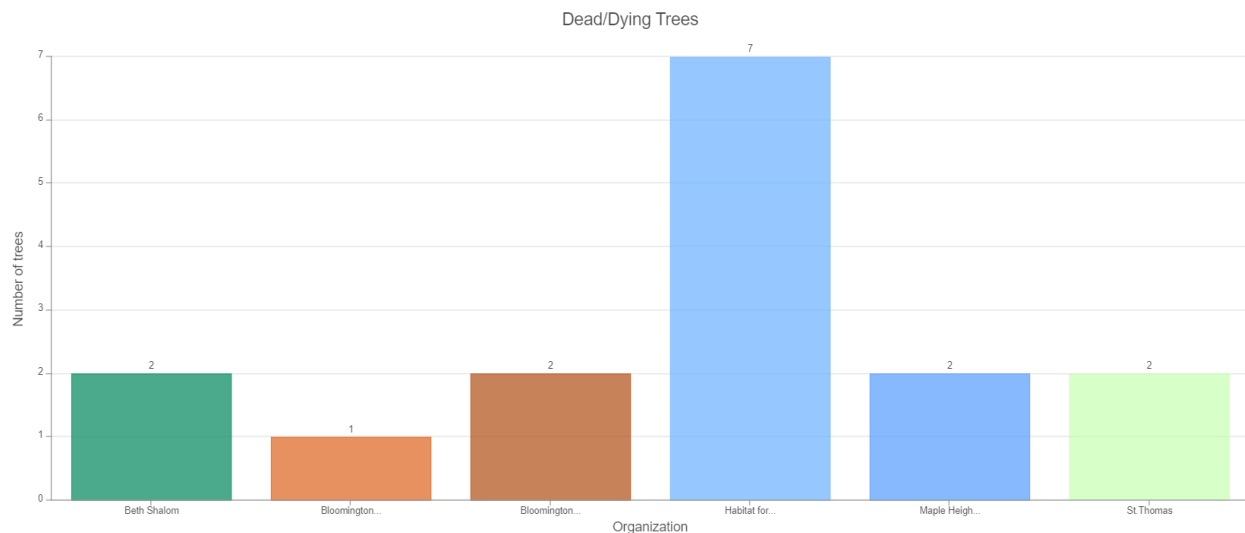


Figure 1. A count of the trees that have died and their locations

The goals of this project are to replace trees that have died and establish a post-maintenance plan for them to ensure their long term survival. Some of these plantings will be paired with planting additional trees at the organizations.

1. **Beth Shalom:** Beth Shalom received 10 trees in the spring of 2023. Two of the trees died due to lack of consistent maintenance. Canopy will plant two replacement trees and establish and ensure execution of a post-planting maintenance plan for the organization.
2. **Bloomington Developmental Learning Center:** Bloomington Developmental Learning Center received 12 trees in spring of 2022. Canopy plans to plant one replacement tree

for a tree that died due to poor placement and storm damage and will establish and ensure execution of a post-planting maintenance plan for the organization.

3. **Bloomington High School South:** Bloomington High School South received twenty-two trees in spring 2023. Two of these trees died to poor maintenance practices. Canopy plans to plant 2 replacement trees with funding from this grant opportunity and fund the planting of an additional 15 trees through additional funding. The school has a landscaping group that will be responsible for post-planting maintenance.
4. **Osage Place:** Canopy planted 10 trees in combination with Habitat for Humanity in summer 2022. Due to poor planting timing and no follow up maintenance, 7 of these trees died and need to be replaced. Canopy plans to plant 7 replacement trees and establish and ensure execution of a post-planting maintenance plan for the organization.
5. **Maple Heights:** Canopy planted 20 trees in Maple Heights in spring 2022. Two of the trees, at two locations, died due to lack of consistent maintenance. Canopy plans to plant two replacement trees and ensure execution of a post-planting maintenance plan for the organization.
6. **St. Thomas:** St. Thomas received 22 trees in spring of 2023. Canopy plans to plant two replacement trees for trees that died due to poor placement and ensure execution of a post-planting maintenance plan for the organization.

Canopy will provide and plant and ensure maintenance for replacement trees where trees Canopy has planted died. All trees will be native to Indiana and resilient to a changing climate. Canopy will plant 15 gallon containerized trees with a caliper of 1.5 - 2 inches. Every organization will water and mulch the trees for 3 years, and Canopy will provide pruning once a year and provide educational support. The replacement trees will receive maintenance of watering from April through October, formative pruning, and mulch at least once a season. Each tree will be watered with 15 gallons of water, once a week, unless it rains more than an inch.

In order to qualify for replacement trees, the organization or resident must 1) have received a tree from Canopy in the past, 2) the tree must have died, 3) must express explicit intention to care for the tree post planting for the first 3 years by signing our 'Tree Planting and Maintenance Agreement', and 4) report to Canopy on the maintenance of the tree. Canopy has already identified the location of the dead trees and approached community partners if they are interested in replacement trees. Canopy will not plant trees where residents have not committed to maintaining the tree for 3 years. In cases where Canopy does not receive a signed tree agreement, Canopy will transfer those funds to a planting participant who has signed the tree agreement. Where trees died due to incorrect species match to the location, Canopy will assess each site where the tree died and determine the correct species to plant in that location or use a different location on the same property. If Canopy receives funding, the replacement trees will be planted in Spring 2025 with the help of Canopy staff and volunteers.

The expected outcome of this project is the replacement of all dead and dying trees either in the exact locations or additional locations depending on the tree species and recommended planting locations.

Planted trees, when well-established and cared for, grow to produce tangible benefits that can be valued in real and significant dollars. By replacing trees in high priority areas that did not survive, Canopy is ensuring that high priority planting areas, which correlate to DAC community members, receive these benefits. This directly aligns with the Bloomington Commission on Sustainability's mission to promote sustainable socio-environmental-economic well-being for all of Bloomington's inhabitants.

Amount Requested:

Item	Amount	Description
Trees	\$4,000	<i>16 trees at \$200 each</i>
Labor	\$0	<i>In-kind from volunteers</i>
Materials	\$0	<i>In-kind from another grant</i>
Equipment	\$0	<i>In-kind from another grant</i>
TOTAL	\$4,000	

Vendor Name:

Vendor	Contact Name	Contact Info	Description
Bluestone Tree	Matt Baldwin	NA	Store, deliver, and assist with maintenance of the trees
Woody Warehouse	NA	NA	Tree Warehouse

Application: 0000000051

Grandview Hills Neighborhood Association
BCOS Sustainable Neighborhoods Grant

Summary

ID: 0000000051
Last submitted: Oct 25 2024 10:18 PM (EDT)

Fill out a form

Completed - Oct 25 2024

BCOS Neighborhood Grant - Intake Form

Please fill out all the information necessary to apply for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant

Applicant Information

Organization/Neighborhood Name

Grandview Hills Neighborhood Association

Organization Type

Registered neighborhood association

Designated Neighborhood Liaison

Provide the information of the authorized liaison. This person will be responsible for signing any necessary contracts and grant applications on behalf of the interested group.

Critically, this person will also be the designated recipient of the grant funding and therefore will be the one that is set up as a vendor in the City's payment system.

Name	Meagan Eller
Email	mmeller75@gmail.com
Address	514 N Staats Dr
Phone Number	8126065682

Will the designated liaison also be serving as the project leader?

Project leaders should be neighborhood residents that are coordinating with others to implement the project itself.

Yes

Participating Residents

In order to participate, the project must be supported by a **minimum of 4 households** of the neighborhood. Please list the contact information of at least 3 others (should all be in from different houses) that will be involved in the project implementation and will benefit from the grant.

	Name	Email
Resident 1	Barbara Howell	bhowell@homefinder.org
Resident 2	Linda O'Donnell	lindaod3614@gmail.com
Resident 3	Nic Pancini-Wagner	ndpancini@gmail.com
Resident 4	Tara Dunderdale	dunderdaleupton@gmail.com
Resident 5	Keeva Stucker	keeva72@hotmail.com

Project Overview

Project Title

6 New Pollinator Gardens

Associated Physical Address

Provide the nearest address of where the project will occur

617 N Grandview Dr, 3411 E Grandview Dr, 514 N Staats Dr, 605 N Staats Dr, 3613 E Post Rd, 3614 E Post Rd

Upload a map of the targeted location

[GrandviewHillsPollinatorGardenLocations.png](#)

The 6 pins on the map are the 6 addresses where homeowners will install new pollinator gardens.

Filename: GrandviewHillsPollinatorGardenLocations.png **Size:** 1.2 MB

If necessary, upload documentation from the owners of the property approving the use of the property for this project

Relevant Bloomington Climate Action Strategy

G 2-B

Funding Request

Maximum amount that applicants may request is \$1,000. During application review, funding request will be taken into consideration and used to determine a recommended funding amount.

Amount	1000
--------	------

Project Details

Project Narrative

Describe the project, including a general overview of how the grant funds would be used.

We want to increase pollinator habitat in our neighborhood. Cost for the project is \$1142.50. We are requesting \$1000 toward pollinator garden kits from Prairie Moon Nursery for 6 homeowners in the Grandview Hills Neighborhood. Each pollinator garden kit contains between 18 and 50 native pollinator plants along with a suggested layout for planting.

Cost breakdown

1 Colossal Pollinator Garden kit at \$199 each: \$199
1 Made in the Shade Garden kit at \$199 each: \$199
1 Rain Garden for Pollinators kit at \$159 each: \$159
1 Pollinator Patch kit at \$119 each: \$119
2 Easy Street Patch kits at \$119 each: \$238

Estimated tax: \$63.98

Estimated shipping: \$164.52

Grandview Hills neighborhood is located in an area identified by the Trust for Public Land's ParkServe mapping tool as a high priority for new parks and a heat risk priority zone. CanopyBloomington has identified our neighborhood as a moderate priority for canopy cover, with a nearly 7% reduction in tree canopy between 2008 and 2018.

Based on these measurable references, our neighborhood leaders understand the need to guide our neighborhood towards growing a sustainable tree canopy and the need to switch our plant base from non-native and invasive to native.

We are currently taking action steps that build on 8 years of working together to remove invasive plants and replace them with native species. However, we know that to make a larger impact we need to involve more neighbors at their current levels of understanding, income level, capabilities, and support them in ways that remove barriers towards taking action.

In order to achieve our goals, we recognize that by creating a project that supports BCOS values, and furthers the needs of our neighborhood, we will be able to reach a larger audience and have an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversations about climate action plans and sustainability.

This opportunity allows us to involve a cross section of neighbors in learning more. For example, our grantees include ages ranging from young families, middle age, to retired people, various income levels and physical abilities. By involving new residents and those who have been previously involved in taking action, this project contributes to our neighborhood efforts to strive towards sustainability and resilience.

Additionally, over the past eight years, our neighborhood has worked together to remove invasive species and plant native shrub seedlings. We have also placed bat houses at several properties in the neighborhood financially supported through the HAND Small and Simple Grant.

Furthermore, we show a track record for working together, receiving grants from the Clean Water Act, Monroe County Master Gardeners, and HAND to improve habitat in our neighborhood.

To underscore our neighborhood's readiness to take on a BCOS grant, we can report that a survey conducted this spring (2024) showed that 65% of respondents are interested in removing invasive plants, planting natives, and landscaping in general.

To this end, GHNA has applied for a CanopyBloomington Neighborhood planting grant October 2024. Upon a successful survey by CanopyBloomington, we aim to install up to 20 native trees using a 1 to 1 ratio of neighborhood participation.

Based on the history of our involvement in learning and taking action, receiving grants, survey results, and seeking more opportunities to increase our tree canopy we believe that our neighbors will partner well with the BCOS project.

Project Deliverables

Provide a statement describing project deliverables and how results will be measured.

- * 174 new pollinator plants in approximately 400 square feet of additional pollinator garden in Grandview Hills Neighborhood.
 - * Documentation of stages using photography: before, site preparation, planting, and finished garden bed after it is planted. These photos will be uploaded to a shared folder.
 - * PowerPoint or Google Slides presentation about the project to be presented at a neighborhood meeting after completion of the project.
 - * Results will be measured by checking the survival rate of the 174 plants in fall 2025 and again in the spring/summer 2026.
-

CAP Alignment

Please provide a statement of relevance, describing how your project supports the CAP goal you selected on the previous page and how your overall project supports Bloomington sustainability goals.

Our grantee survey has revealed that 2 people will be using established garden beds, whereas 3 will be removing turf, and 2 are rehabilitating areas where invasive plants were removed to lay out a new native garden. (Note: 1 is partially rehabilitating and partially removing turf.) The total space of both new and established beds will be approximately 400 sq/ft.

This project allows 6 homeowners to collaborate on a joint undertaking that involves education, action, and a future-forward outcome. These values are inline with our ongoing initiative to remove invasive species and plant native. In addition to adding native species into our yards, we are increasing our native seed bank for further seed collections. We are also nurturing relationships, helping each other prepare for on-boarding the native planting kit, learning together, and building community.

Our grantee community spans young families, middle age and retirees. Our sharing of knowledge will build confidence in growing plants and gardening, and will lead to future seed collecting, sharing of seeds, and planting seeds to further our community seed sharing.

National, state, and city parks are too small and too separated to support wildlife. By switching our plant base in our yards from non-native and invasive plant species to native species we can provide a mosaic of habitat that provides host plants for insects and birds.

Birds require caterpillar larvae to feed their offspring, and other animals depend on native species to complete their life cycles. By seeking opportunities to increase native habitat in our own yards we are filling the gaps of a broken landscape and subsequently creating and providing a wildlife corridor of great importance for migrating birds, and insects that rely on native species as their host plants.

These creatures have evolved with native plants for millions of years, so by switching to native species and replacing key plant species in our yards we can work towards wildlife surviving and thriving.

To provide a contiguous landscape, whether that is by increasing tree canopy, shrubs or wildflowers, we are offsetting the encroachment of human development and road ecology. Especially buffering the environmental

stressors (such as noise, heat, too much light, and disturbed areas) that drive edge-dwelling creatures further into deeper forests to compete for resources, nesting cavities, and food sources.

Project Timeline

Provide a list of project milestones with an approximate timeline and completion date. Include details necessary to accomplish each milestone.

- * Preparation of yard space began October 2024. Each homeowner is responsible for preparing the area by removing grass/turf or invasive plants in the selected location. This work will be accomplished by April 2025.
- * Order plants from Prairie Moon Nursery when they go on sale in late December 2024
- * Set up a calendar schedule for monthly support meetings in person, virtually, or via email starting in January 2025.
- * Receive plants between late April and June 2025, based on Prairie Moon's shipping schedule.
- * Ongoing documentation of stages using photography: before, site preparation, planting, and finished garden bed after it is planted. These photos will be added to a shared folder.
- * Ongoing seed collection and sharing.

Project Cost

Upload a detailed project budget, specifying which aspects of the project are to be funded by the BCOS grant.

[Pollinator Garden Project Budget.pdf](#)

Filename: Pollinator Garden Project Budget.pdf **Size:** 47.0 kB

Alternative Funding

Describe any other sources of project funding, including a cost-sharing proposal if applicable.

Each homeowner will contribute toward the cost of the kits above the amount of the grant. Each homeowner will also be responsible for:

- * Cost of site prep, such as the purchase of plastic to smother grass
- * Cost of mulch (free sources, such as chip drop are encouraged)
- * Cost of water for watering the plants

Project Outcomes

Expected Benefits

Describe if and how the project will (1) increase resident engagement with Bloomington's sustainability goals (2) advance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the community (3) provide community-wide benefits.

This opportunity allows us to involve a cross section of neighbors in learning more. For example, our grantees include ages ranging from young families, middle age, to retired people, various income levels and physical abilities. By involving new residents and those who have been previously involved in taking action, this project contributes to our neighborhood efforts to strive towards sustainability and resilience.

Many residents in our neighborhood grow vegetable gardens or have fruit and nut trees planted on their property. Increasing pollinator habitat in the neighborhood will increase the number of pollinators, which will in turn improve the pollination of fruit, nut, and vegetable trees and plants.

As part of this project, we plan to create a presentation to share with the neighborhood. This will allow us to educate more neighbors about the advantages of native plants and the need for pollinator plants, especially among neighbors who prefer more traditional flower beds. Informational materials have previously been produced based on neighborhood projects, such as our partnership with MC-IRIS and IU Professor Reynolds' BioDiverCity Service Learning Class. The service learning took place in Grandview Hills and included a video produced by the students (<https://youtu.be/Vx2X9DEeS7M?si=F5LhZP3LqSS78dVp>).

Our neighborhood has an eight year history of working together to remove invasive plants, increase native plants, and generally improve the biodiversity of our area. With our neighborhood's history, it is easy to include information about the Climate Action Plan in the information we share about this project. We have already had discussions in our neighborhood association board meetings about the Climate Action Plan and which goals we can contribute to. We have already started gathering resiliency resources to share with the neighborhood.

Expected Challenges

Describe any expected challenges and how you anticipate overcoming these, using previous experiences to help if applicable.

The biggest challenges are weather and nature.

Deer, rabbits, groundhogs and other animals may browse, eating some plants. We have experience protecting shrubs with cages. We have material for some cages available from our prior shrub plantings.

Too much or too little rain, excessive heat, or late frost (if plants come early) could all impact this project. Adverse weather may delay planting, which can also affect plant survival. Too little rain can be offset with increased watering and mulching. Choosing native pollinators should reduce the impact of weather.

Additional challenges will be keeping up with weeding, especially for the first year as the plants get established, and personal health and fitness levels that may make it difficult for all participants to get all their plants planted and maintain the new gardens. Our neighborhood has a history of working as a community to remove invasive plants and plant native shrubs. We anticipate having a similar community effort for the pollinator plants.

Project Maintenance

Describe if and how the project will be maintained beyond the life of this grant. If these efforts were not included in the project timeline, please also detail how they fit into the timeline.

Homeowners will be responsible for weeding, watering, and mulching as needed once the gardens are planted. Our neighborhood has a history of helping each other with maintenance, which will ensure the gardens become established. Since we are planting native plants, maintenance needs are expected to decrease after three to five years.

Community References

Optional

If you would like to include any community references to strengthen your application, please list them here.

	Name	Phone	Email
Reference 1			
Reference 2			

Letters of Support

If you would like to include any letters of support for your project, please include them here.

Application Review

Additional Attachments

Upload any additional attachments.

Application Signature

I have read and understood the information regarding my application for a Bloomington Commission on Sustainability Grant and I understand that the grant money is not a prize for personal profit or gain and is strictly for the project described. I further understand that the City of Bloomington has the right to allocate and supervise the spending of the grant money and when projects do not proceed within the stated timetable, the City of Bloomington reserves the right to request that the grant be refunded. I understand that recipients of these grants may be invited by the City of Bloomington to participate in promotion and publicity of the project. Please type your name below to electronically sign and signal your agreement to these terms and conditions listed in the Grant Application and Agreement.

Negan Melle

6 New Pollinator Garden Project Budget

Kit	Cost
Easy Street Patch	\$119.00
Easy Street Patch	\$119.00
Colossal Pollinator Garden	\$199.00
Pollinator Patch	\$119.00
Rain Garden for Pollinators	\$159.00
Made in the Shade	\$199.00
Kit subtotal	\$914.00
Estimated tax	\$63.98
Estimated shipping	\$164.52
Kit total	\$1,142.50

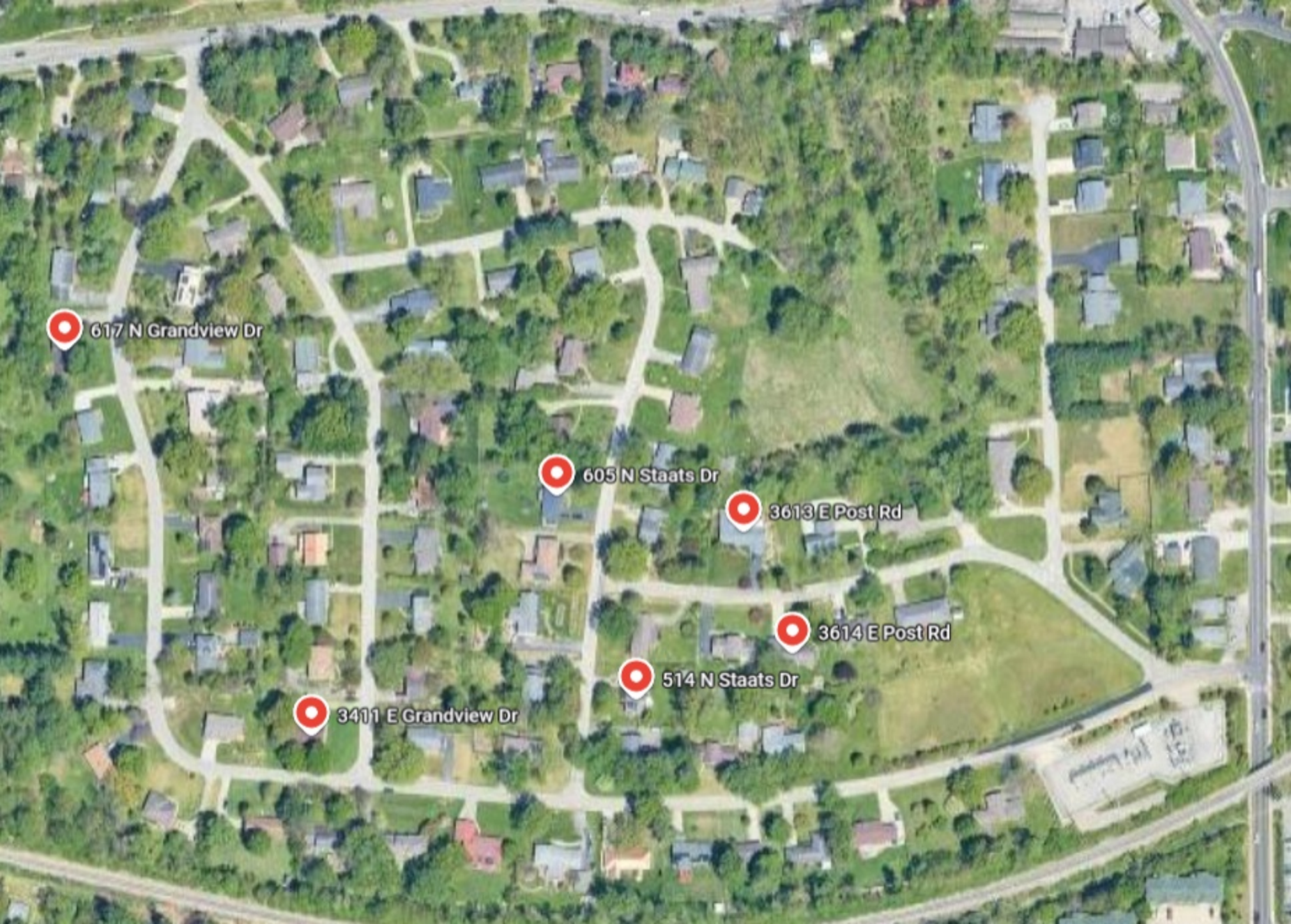
Funding source	Amount
BCOS Grant	\$1,000.00
Homeowner contributions	\$142.50

Additional expenses not listed above

Mulch: varies. Homeowners will provide their own mulch.

Water: varies. Homeowners will water plants.

Site preparation: varies. Homeowners will prepare their site.



617 N Grandview Dr

605 N Staats Dr

3613 E Post Rd

3614 E Post Rd

514 N Staats Dr

3411 E Grandview Dr